increased *w.e.f.* 1.12.2000 by shifting the base to the population projections of the Registrar General as on 1.3.2000 instead of the earlier base of 1995, thus bringing a total of 6.52 crore families under BPL category as against the earlier number of 5.96 crore families.

Under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) announed by the Prime Minister on 25.12.2000, foodgrains are made to one crore 'poorest of the poor' families from amongst the number of BPL families at highly subsidized rates *i.e.* Rs. 2 a kg. for wheat and Rs. 3 a kg. for rice. AAY has been implemented in all States and Union Territories in the country. Besides TPDS and AAY other complementary welfare schemes such as Sampoorna Gramin Rojgar Yojana (SGRY), Annapoorna, Food for Work Programme and Mid-day Meals Programme are under implementation for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable sections of the society.

Antyodaya Anna Yojana in Pondicherry

1965. SHRI C. P. THIRUNAVUKKARASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families identified in Pondicherry under "Antyodaya Anna Yojana" during the year 2001; and

(b) the quantity of rice allotted for this scheme to Pondicherry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI ASHOK PRADHAN): (a) and (b) Government of Pondicherry has identified 9000 families under the Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY), for whom 225 MT of rice per month is being allocated @25 Kg. per family per month *w.e.f.* November 2001.